

Kinge," wrote one who had laboured
 much, amid
 grave personal dangers, for the welfare of
 his fellows,
¹¹ hathe not sent us the poore lyvinge we
 have, but
 to doe services therfore amonge our
 neighbours
 abroad." The divines who fulminated
 against
 the uncharitable covetousness of the
 extortionate
 middleman, the grasping money-lender, or
 the tyrannous
 landlord, saw in the measures by which the
 Government
 endeavoured to suppress the greed of
 individuals or
 the collision of classes a much needed
 cement of social
 solidarity, and appealed to Csesar to
 redouble his
 penalties upon an economic license which
 was hateful
 to God* The statesmen concerned to
 prevent agitation
 saw in religion the preservative of order, and
 the antidote
 for the cupidity or ambition which
 threatened to
 destroy it, and reinforced the threat of
 temporal
 penalties with arguments that would not
 have been
 out of place in the pulpit. To both alike
 religion is
 concerned with something more than
 personal salvation,
 It is the sanction of social duties and the
 spiritual
 manifestation of the corporate life of a
 complex, yet
 united, society. To both the State is
 something more
 than an institution created by material
 necessities or
 political convenience. It is the temporal
 expression
 of spiritual obligations. It is a link
 between the

individual soul and that supernatural
society of which
all Christian men are held to be members. It
rests not
merely on practical convenience, but on the
will of God.
Of that philosophy, the classical expression,
at once
the most catholic, the most reasonable, and
the most
sublime, is the work of Hooker. What it
meant to
one cast in a narrower mould, pedantic,
irritable, and
intolerant, yet not without the streak of
harsh nobility
which belongs to all who love an idea,
however unwisely,
more than their own ease, is revealed in
the sermons
and the activity of Laud. Laud's
intellectual limitations
and practical blunders need no
emphasis. If his
vices made him intolerable to the most
powerful forces